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This notice expires 1 September 1955

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NOTICE

PERSONNEL  
10 June 1955

THE CAREER STAFF OF THE CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY  
CEREMONY INAUGURATING THE CAREER STAFF

1. A ceremony inaugurating the CIA Career Staff was held in the Director's Conference Room, Administration Building, on 27 April 1955. The Director was officially notified that he had been selected as the first member of the CIA Career Staff. Fifteen staff employees from the various Career Services were presented their Notifications of Membership in the CIA Career Staff by the Director. These employees were chosen at random from those persons who had been selected as members of the Career Staff as of 27 April 1955.

2. The Director of Central Intelligence, the Deputy Director, members of the Career Council and the Selection Board, and the Heads of the Career Services of the Agency attended this ceremony.

3. The Inspector General, in behalf of the Chairman of the Career Council who was unavoidably absent, presented the official Notification of Membership in the CIA Career Staff to the Director. The following introductory remarks were made by the Inspector General:

The Central Intelligence Agency today celebrates a very important and significant occasion. It is important for the intelligence community of the United States. It is significant for you, myself, and for all members of the Central Intelligence Agency. Today we launch the Career Staff of the Central Intelligence Agency. The background for launching this Staff started more than three years ago. After considerable time and effort on the part of the CIA Career Service Board and the Career Boards of each Office, on July 1, 1954, the order was signed which established the CIA Career Staff. On August 3, some [redacted] senior supervisors met in the Department of Agriculture Auditorium, at which time the background and significance of the Career Staff was explained to them. Since that date, over [redacted] staff employees and staff agents of CIA have applied for membership. These applications have been reviewed initially by each supervisor; second, by the Head of the appropriate Career Service; then reviewed by all of the offices of record in the Central Intelligence Agency; and, finally, passed on by the CIA Selection Board. Naturally, this process has taken some time. As of this date, [redacted] applications have been accepted; the rest are still being processed.

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I should say that you all recognize that an individual must have been with CIA three years before his application is considered for membership in the CIA Career Staff. At the August 3 meeting Mr. Dulles said to Mr. Reynolds, "Send me an application and have it considered. I would like to be a member of the CIA Career Staff." That application has now been considered, and the CIA Selection Board is privileged to make you/indicating Mr. Dulles/ the first member of the CIA Career Staff. It gives me great pleasure to present to you today, on behalf of the CIA Career Council, the initial membership in the Career Staff of the Central Intelligence Agency.

4. Excerpts of the statements made by the Director in his acceptance of the Notification of Membership in the CIA Career Staff are quoted below:

This day represents for me, and for all of us, a real landmark in the history of intelligence in the United States. When I took this job I told those in Government that I was taking this job for as long as they wanted me to serve in it. I was not looking for anything else. I can't conceive of a job more important to the Government, nor can I think of any job that would give a man or woman a better opportunity to exercise all his talents, his abilities, his ingenuity, than this particular job. I accept this certificate with a dedication and with enthusiasm. I am delighted to be a member of this small group here, and of a much larger group and a growing group in the Agency as the membership in the Career Staff builds up. The fact that we have over [redacted] applications is an extraordinary testimony to the interest and devotion of the great majority, practically the unanimity, of those whom we have here and abroad serving CIA.

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I probably started in intelligence before almost any of you here, and maybe before a good many of you were born, because I really started my intelligence career in 1917 when I was in Foreign Service; as a matter of fact, before anyone had ever dreamed, really, of an American intelligence agency such as we have today. And in those days,

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the days of World War I when I was serving in Bern, but really doing intelligence work, I developed an interest and enthusiasm for the work that has never left me. From time to time, as you know, over the years, up until the end of 1950 when I came down here, I had felt that this was the career that I wanted, and I am delighted to see that there are so many in our Organization who feel the same way.

I don't know any line of work where a Career Service is more needed than it is in intelligence. It is only through training, it is only through experience, it is only through trial and error--and we all make mistakes--that one can build up qualities and capabilities to do good intelligence work, and it is needed all the way down the line. The person who is working in filing is just as important, in many ways, as the person who is reaching the top decisions. If you don't have your papers before you to make those decisions, you don't make the right decision, and if they don't get there quickly you miss opportunities. So I want to tell each one of you, no matter what your particular job may be, that it is vital to the entire teamwork of the Agency. That is why we have this Career Staff right across the board, and we are not sectionalizing it in different departments or sections of the Agency. It is one career, with various facets, whether one is in the estimating side of the work or whether one is in the intelligence gathering side of the work, analyzing side, administrative side--it is all one work, one career, and one great opportunity to do service for the Government. I wish to quote a remark made recently by Bernard Baruch which I think is pertinent. It is:

We need a new campaign in America,  
a campaign to get the facts, not as  
we would like them to be but as they  
are. Our arsenal for war is mighty.  
Our instruments for peace are many.  
But they are all useless unless reason  
and intelligence direct them.

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It seems to me that is a kind of a charter for us. That is our job. We don't deal with policy, we deal with the facts behind the policy. We have one of the most important and vital jobs in the Government. This Agency is daily gaining in stature and importance. It is not a policy-making department of the Government, but there is not a department that does not now look to us for help and guidance. We have great responsibilities, and I am sure that now that we are starting out with a Career Staff we can far better fill those responsibilities than in the past. We are on the road to real accomplishment, and I am glad to be a member of this first group of the Career Staff.

5. At the conclusion of the ceremony, the Notifications of Membership in the CIA Career Staff, for the persons whose applications were accepted as of 27 April 1955, were forwarded through command channels for presentation to the persons concerned.

FOR THE DIRECTOR OF CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE:

L. K. WHITE  
Deputy Director  
(Support)

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